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The Main Thing Devotional

Chaplain's Office

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## Moving Forward, Hand in Hand!

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### **The Main Thing Devotional: Moving Forward, Hand in Hand!**

*But Moses' hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. - Exodus 17:12*

**Just because you feel weary it does not mean you are weak.** Muhammad Ali is known to arguably be the greatest boxer of all time and is certainly known for his clever poetic rhymes. He once said, "I've wrestled with alligators, I've tussled with a whale. I done handcuffed lightning and throw thunder in jail. You know I'm bad. Just last week, I murdered a rock, injured a stone, hospitalized a brick. I'm so mean, I make medicine sick."

His unsuspecting opponents rarely had a good verbal comeback to Ali's taunts. This gave him a psychological advantage, even before he stepped into the ring. There was, however, one person he was not prepared for; an unassuming flight attendant.

The story is told that Ali was flying to one of his engagements and during the flight the aircraft ran into foul weather. The passengers were instructed to immediately fasten their seatbelts, and all complied but Ali. A flight attendant approached him and requested that he observe the captain's order, only to hear Ali audaciously respond, "Superman don't need no seatbelt." The flight attendant, however, did not miss a beat but quickly replied, "Superman don't need no airplane either!"<sup>[1]</sup>

Whenever we experience turbulence in life, we can often seek to impersonate Superman or Superwoman to show that we have it all together, but no matter how strong we maybe, we can expect a crash landing without God.

In Exodus 17:12, the Bible says that Moses became weary. Although Moses is one of the greatest leaders in the Old Testament, he was still human, and experienced exhaustion in the battle. God wants you to know that *just because you may feel weary does not mean you are weak*; even the strongest get weary in the battle. You may be the best husband, the best wife, the best parent, the best professor, the best pastor, the best university president, the best student - you get the idea - but there will be times when you get weary. So, what should you do when you find yourself or see someone else exhausted in the battle? Find support or offer it to someone! The Bible says when Moses' hands grew weary, Aaron and Hur went on either side of him and held up his hands. As a leader you need to find your Aaron and Hur; those that will lift your hands up when you get weary. As long as Moses' hands were raised, God's people would win the battle.

As we prepare for our students to arrive on campus, may we hold each other's hands up; that is how the battle is won! It is only as we hold each other's hands up that we can confidently move forward together, even during times weariness. God promises that the battle is won, but it can only be won as we move forward together in faith, hands raised – even if our hands can only stay raised by the support of another!

### **Reflection**

Who has God brought in your life to support you when you have become weary? No matter how gifted you are, there will be times when you will find yourself or others around you getting weary. Find two people who you can lean on this semester to raise your hands when you get weary. Also, why not reach out to two people who you pledge to support whenever they become weary.

### **Prayer**

*God, thank you for all the times you have providentially provided people around us to support us. Like Moses, we raise our hands to you! We raise each student, each faculty member, each staff and each perplexing circumstance to Your eternal throne. Remind us that when we get weary it may not be a sign that we are weak, rather it is an opportunity to see your provision through those you have placed in our lives. Give us the discernment to know when others are weary so that we may lift their hands up and move forward together!*

### **RESOURCES**

- Share your prayer requests or praises with us via text message using your mobile phone. **Text-to-Pray: 423-281-8996.**
- While we cannot meet in person because of physical distancing restrictions, we encourage you to make an appointment to **talk online** with Chaplain [Anna Bennett](#) or [Joseph Khabbaz](#) if you need someone to pray with or are desiring to grow spiritually.